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DE RUEHKT #0912 2271059
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
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FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9040
INFO RUEHB/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 6614
RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY 6920
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA PRIORITY 2220
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 4961
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 6174
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 2586
RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY 0194
RUEHCI/AMCONSUL KOLKATA PRIORITY 4292
RUEHG/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 2142
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 3289
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RHMFSS/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L KATHMANDU 000912

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/14/2018
TAGS: PREL PGOV PHUM KDEM NP
SUBJECT: NEPAL: TWO NOMINEES FOR PRIME MINISTER

REF: KATHMANDU 910

Classified By: Ambassador Nancy J. Powell. Reasons 1.4 (b/d).

Summary

¶1. (C) According to Mukunda Sharma, spokesman of the Constituent Assembly Secretariat, two candidates had filed nomination papers by the August 14 5 pm deadline for the August 15 election of the Prime Minister - Sher Bahadur Deuba from Nepali Congress (NC) and Pushpa Kamal Dahal (aka Prachanda) from the Communist Party of Nepal - Maoist (CPN-M). Deuba filed his papers while a late afternoon meeting among the CPN-M, Communist Party of Nepal - United Marxist Leninist (UML) and Madhesi People's Rights Forum (MPRF), which had ostensibly been called to discuss how to bring NC into a Maoist-led consensus government, was still in session. Since Deuba filed his papers almost one hour before Dahal, his name will be voted on first during the voting for Prime Minister. Barring any change during last-minute negotiations, which cannot be ruled out, Deuba does not appear to have the votes to be elected on the first ballot.
POWELL